

What is claimed is:

1. An image-taking apparatus comprising:
  - a compound eye optical unit which has a plurality of optical elements each facing to an object, and having an image-forming action;
  - an image-pickup device which photoelectrically converts an object image formed by the compound eye optical unit;
  - a transmission unit which transmits image information provided by using the image-pickup device; and
  - a hold member which holds the compound eye optical unit and the image-pickup device and includes an attachment member for attachment to a user.
2. The image-taking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the transmission unit is held by the hold member.
3. The image-taking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an optical element of the plurality of optical elements disposed at a larger distance from the center of the compound eye optical unit has an optical axis inclined more outward with respect to the optical axis of the central optical element.
4. The image-taking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the compound eye optical unit forms an image-taking field angle of 120 degrees or more in a predetermined direction.

5. The image-taking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the hold member is attachable to a user's clothing.

6. The image-taking apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the hold member has a badge, button, buckle, or card shape.

7. The image-taking apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a reception unit which receives a control signal; and

a controller which controls image-taking operation based on the control signal.

8. The image-taking apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a reception unit which receives a control signal; and

a controller which controls an amount of image information transmitted by the transmission unit based on the control signal.

9. A monitoring system comprising:

the image-taking apparatus according to claim 1; and

a monitor apparatus which displays image information transmitted from the transmission unit of the image-taking apparatus.

10. A monitoring system comprising:

the image-taking apparatus according to claim 7 or 8;

a monitor apparatus which displays image information

transmitted from the transmission unit of the image-taking apparatus;

a monitor side transmission unit which transmits control signal to the image-taking apparatus; and

a manipulation apparatus which modifies the control signal in accordance with manipulation of a monitoring person.